



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

MAYOR DICK MURPHY

San Diego Science & Technology Commission MEETING MINUTES

The San Diego Science and Technology Commission (SDS&TC) held a regularly scheduled meeting on Wednesday, December 4, 2002, at SAIC, 10260 Campus Point Drive, Building C, Conference Room C5100, San Diego, CA 92122.

- I. **CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL:** Dr. Martha Dennis, SDS&TC Chair, called the meeting to order at 3:10 p.m. Members present: Craig Andrews, Dr. Martha Dennis, Susan Myrland, and Carrie Stone. Member with excused absence: Dr. Tom Dillon. Members absent: Steven Briggs, John Cohen, Scott Corlett, David Hale, Dr. Hui Cai, Craig Irving, Vicki Marion, Richard Polanco Jr., Alberto Mier Y Teran, and Julie Meier Wright. Others Present: Community & Economic Development Department staff members Toni Dillon, Tina Hines, Ana Maria Jaramillo, Michael Jenkins; Charles Holland (Sony Corporation), Kevin Carroll (AeA), Dr. Lou Poanessa (SAIC).
- II. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** None.
- III. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR OCTOBER 23, 2002:** Due to the lack of a quorum, approval of the minutes was tabled. Dr. Dennis mentioned three corrections to the minutes as presented: 1.) Craig Andrews should be listed as absent; 2.) a spreadsheet should be created to reflect the Science and Technology Revenue & Expense Report; 3.) the \$50,000 for consultant contracts for the Mission Gorge Technology studies approved by the Commission should be included in Commission expenditures; and 4.) a reference to Dr. Dillon should be changed to Dr. Dennis so that, upon correction, the sentence should read, "Dr. Dennis noted that the Workgroup's efforts on the digital divide could be framed as a citywide and/or countywide policy issue, but could also be framed geographically or demographically."
- IV. **COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT UPDATE**
 - A. Mission Trails Technology Park Update: Mr. Jenkins reported that Kaiser Martson and Associates (KMA) has been contracted to perform the \$25,000 infrastructure financing approved previously by SDS&TC. Ms. Jaramillo reported that the Business Expansion, Retention and Attraction (BEAR) team has begun working on a community plan amendment to the Navajo Community Plan to allow for development of the Mission Gorge Technology Park's 400-acre site. The amendment will take six to nine months to complete the review and approval process. She stated that the Mission Gorge Technology Park would be likely be developed in phases, with a first phase of 56 net acres. Mark Hamman would be the developer for this Phase. She noted that Councilmember Madaffer plans to meet with the Navajo and Allied Gardens Community Planning to discuss this project.
 - B. Commission Appointments & Vacancies Update: Ms. Dillon stated that there are currently three vacancies on the SDS&TC. Dr. Dennis indicated she will review the attendance sheets of previous meetings and will contact Commissioners that are not attending and encourage those who are not attending regularly to consider resigning.

C. SDS&TC Website Updates, Revisions, and Suggestions. Ms. Dillon was asked to follow up with staff of the City's Information Technology and Communications Department to address these SDS&TC website issues: 1.) the ability to search from the City page and locate the Commission's site, and 2.) the outdated roster of Commissioners.

V. SUB-COMMITTEE UPDATES

A. Digital Divide Subcommittee/Digital Inclusion Working Group Report: Dr. Dennis directed the Commissioners' attention to the "Status Report to the SDS&TC on the Digital Inclusion Working Group" and noted that the Digital Divide Subcommittee had now become the Digital Inclusion Working Group. Working Group members include the City's Information Technology and Communications, Community and Economic Development, and Library Departments; the San Diego Community Technology Coalition; San Diego Data Processing Corporation; San Diego Regional Economic Development Corporation; San Diego Futures Foundation; San Diego Regional Technology Alliance; and the Waitt Family Foundation. The Working Group will invite representation from the San Diego Workforce Partnership, San Diego City Schools, and the San Diego County Office of Education.

Dr. Dennis reported that since the last Commission meeting, the Working Group has met three times and made progress in the following areas: 1.) the Library Department agreed to ensure that relevant information regarding digital access and workforce training programs would be provided to the nonprofit technology centers, SD Futures Foundation, and the Waitt family foundation, and will provide a link to the Waitt Foundation website which manages the interactive digital access map; 2) Oracle Corporation committed to providing computers to low-income schools and technology centers using a "thin client model," along with a commitment for cabling; and, 3) the Working Group recommended a study of the economic costs and benefits of improving digital inclusion in the region.

B. Action Item - Digital Inclusion Workforce Access and Training Study: Ms. Myrland commented that digital inclusion has educational, economic, and socio-cultural disparity components. Programs addressing the digital divide are of concern to all aspects of daily life for underserved communities. She therefore proposed a Digital Inclusion Workforce Access & Training Study to analyze workforce digital readiness skills, to cover the gap between SDWP's study on job skills and employment development for the region's employment sectors and the SDRTA's pending update to A Study of the Digital Divide in San Diego County, 2000, funded by the Waitt Family Foundation, analyzing the penetration of digital technology in San Diego and evaluating services such as the nonprofit computer technology centers. Ms. Myrland noted that these two studies offer information on supply and demand of the technology skilled workforce. However, she opined that an analysis should be completed to determine the costs that the lack of digital technology skill among the workforce affects the region's current and future employment pool. Ms. Carrie Stone asked if the research could be analyzed by Council District. Ms. Dillon said that the data would be developed along census tracks, but this can be correlated to Council districts. Without a quorum, the Commission could not act to allocate its funds for this study. After Dr. Dennis noted a clear consensus on proceeding with this contract, Mr. Jenkins said that, to minimize delays in entering into a contract, staff will process the actions to enter into a contract, including preparing a scope of services and conducting the bid process, and will present them as a package for the Commission's approval at the next Commission meeting.

C. Portal Technology Subcommittee Update: This was tabled as no representative from the subcommittee was present.

VI. SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY INDUSTRY TRADE ORGANIZATIONS PRESENTATION

A. American Electronic Association Presentation (AeA) Mr. Kevin Carroll, Executive Director, commented on the need for San Diego to continue to be “business-friendly” and to address industry concerns such as: 1.) affordable housing; 2.) transportation; 3.) the tax and regulatory environment. He presented statistics regarding high-technology employment, noting that in 2001 the number of employees in the high technology industry segments for the top four California cities are: 1.) Los Angeles 174,500; 2.) San Francisco 98,400; 3.) San Jose 82,400; and 4.) San Diego 76,001. From a national standpoint, California is the leading technology employer, with Texas second, New York third, and Illinois fourth.

B. Economic Impacts on San Diego: Ms. Stone asked how the Commission can influence and affect transportation and affordable housing concerns, noting that these issues were identified in the Commission’s “vision statement” as concerns that the Commission wished to examine and impact. Ms. Jaramillo suggested that, as these are broad issues that involve several other City departments, other government agencies, and the private sector, City staff could seek other speakers for the Commission. She noted that SANDAG’s “Mobility 2030” Draft Report was presented to the Commission at the June 5 meeting. Ms. Dillon said that the Commission can support or recommend policy items that affect transportation and housing as well as policies that affect science and technology businesses. Jaramillo indicated that, at the February, 2002, meeting, staff had identified three areas that the BEAR team would like to cover in detail with the Commission: 1.) economic incentives; 2.) permit processing; and 3.) industrial lands for continued science and technology industry growth. Mr. Jenkins commented that the City has taken many steps recently to address affordable housing concerns, including: 1.) adoption of Housing Impact Fees; 2.) pooling redevelopment project area affordable housing funds to allow issuance of a \$55 million bond to develop affordable housing; and 3.) adopting the City of Villages General Plan Update with its focus on jobs/housing balance. Ms. Dillon asked the Commissioners if they would like more trade organization presentation, and Ms. Stone responded that this was not necessary because the Commissioners generally sit on such boards and can bring these issue to the attention of the Commission. Dr. Dennis asked that the San Diego Venture Group be added to the list. Dr. Lou Poanessa, a member of the public, suggested that the Commission focus on future opportunities for science and technology and how these would benefit the citizens of San Diego.

VII. UPCOMING MEETINGS: All members of the Commission were in consensus that the next regular meeting will be February 26, 2003, tentatively scheduled at SAIC.

VIII. ADJOURN: There being no further business of the Commission, this meeting was adjourned at 4:50 P.M.